

Each Drop Counts!!

What you can't hear can cost you money! Silent leaks allow water and your money to go down the drain.

DETECTING A LEAK = SAVING MONEY!

Studies have shown that homes can waste more than 10% due to leaks.

Check your meter:

When you're not using any water, check your meter. Lift the lid on your water meter and see if there is any movement on the face of the meter. If you see movement, water is going through it, which means water is going somewhere, and it's costing you money! Mark your calendar at home and check your meter 3-4 times a year. If your consumption is increasing quarterly, with no explanation, you may have a leak.

HOW TO SAVE WATER AROUND YOUR HOUSE

- 1. Replace your old toilet, the largest water user inside your home.** If your home was built before 1992 and the toilet has never been replaced, then it is very likely that you do not have a water efficient 1.6 gallon per flush toilet. You can check the date stamp inside the toilet by lifting the lid and looking at the back of the toilet at the manufacturer's imprint of the make, model and date of manufacture.
- 2. Replace your clothes washer, the second largest water user in your home.** Energy Star rated washers that also have a Water Factor at or lower than 9.5, use 35-50% less water and 50% less energy per load. And, only run your clothes washer when it is full. Match the water level to the size of the load.
- 3. Plant the right plants with proper landscape design and irrigation.** Whether you are installing new landscaping or slowly changing your current one, select plants that are appropriate for your climate conditions. Choose shrubs and groundcovers instead of turf for hard-to-water areas such as steep slopes and isolated strips. Spreading organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water. Fall is a great time for planting. The conditions are cooler and the rainfall is more plentiful. Aerate your lawn at least once a year so water can reach the roots rather than running off the surface.
- 4. Water what your plants need.** Most water is wasted in your garden by watering plants that do not need water. If you manually water your garden, set a timer, this will help to remind you to move the watering promptly. Also, adjust your sprinklers so only your lawn is watered, not the house, sidewalk or street. Water in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation. Don't water on windy days. Most of the water will blow away or evaporate. Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. A taller lawn shades roots and holds soil moisture better. Use a rain gauge to track rainfall. This will reduce watering accordingly.
- 5. Washing dishes by hand.** If you wash your dishes by hand, fill one side of the sink with wash water and the other side with rinse water. Don't let the water run while rinsing. Install an instant water heater near your sink so you don't have to run the water while it heats up.
- 6. Showering/Bathing.** If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water efficient model. Try shortening your shower by a minute or two. This could save you up to 150 gallons per month! When bathing, plug the tub before turning on the water, then adjust the temp as the tub fills up.
- 7. Exterior Leaks.** Don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks. Remember to winterize outdoor spigots when temps dip below freezing to prevent pipes from leaking or bursting.